


13 April 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Survey of NIE Dissemination

1. O/NE would like to undertake a survey of the distribution and use of its National Intelligence Estimates and Special National Intelligence Estimates. We are motivated in part by the steady increase in the distribution of estimates (in 1957 our normal distribution requirements for NIEs were met by a printing run of 327 copies; we now run 425 in order to meet our requirements). Although this increase is not bad per se, we are nevertheless anxious to find out where all these copies go and who is reading them. Security considerations alone would make such a survey desirable at this time.

2. The Office of Central Reference has agreed to undertake such a survey and we have worked with them in the preparation of the appropriate forms. If the USIB members agree that such a survey would be desirable, we plan to ask OCR to approach the control and distribution offices in the various agencies as soon as possible.

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3. Following the completion of this survey, we intend to analyze the results and prepare some recommendations for you to present, should you choose to do so, to the USIB.

FOR THE BOARD OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES:

SHERMAN KENT
Assistant Director
National Estimates